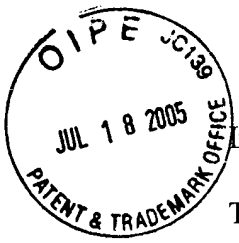


00862.022223.

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



In re Application of:)
: Examiner: T. Lett
TETSUYA KAWANABE)
: Group Art Unit: 2626
Application No.: 09/853,710)
:
Filed: May 14, 2001)
:
For: IMAGE PROCESSING)
SYSTEM, IMAGE DATA :
PROCESSING METHOD,)
AND STORAGE MEDIUM : July 15, 2005

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant respectfully directs the Examiner's attention to the documents listed below and on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. A copy of each of the non-U.S. patent documents is enclosed.

- (1) U.S. Patent No. 5,550,637
- (2) Japan 59-000624
- (3) Japan 03-225410
- (4) Japan 08-263188
- (5) Japan 62-272384
- (6) Japan 63-220385
- (7) Japan 04-199392
- (8) Japan 06-052670
- (9) Japan 01-159274
- (10) Japan 06-282127

Documents (2) to (8) were cited during prosecution of Japan 2000-144028 and documents (9) and (10) were cited during prosecution of Japan 2000-144028, both of which correspond to the above-identified. Copies of the two Japanese Office Actions dated May 9, 2005 and May 20, 2005, respectively, are enclosed.

It is noted that U.S. Patent 5,550,637 is an English language counterpart of Japan 06-282127. English language abstracts for each of the foregoing Japanese documents have been located and are enclosed for the Examiner's consideration. The concise explanation of relevance for each of these documents is believed to be satisfied by the enclosed English abstracts or the English language counterpart. See MPEP § 609.

Inasmuch as this application has not yet received a first Office Action on the merits, it is believed that this Information Disclosure Statement is timely. See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3). Accordingly, the Examiner is urged to study this information in its entirety and to form an independent determination of the materiality of the information to the claimed invention. Additionally, the Examiner is requested to indicate that this information has been considered by initialing the appropriate portion of the Form PTO-1449 and returning the initialed form to Applicant with the next communication.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa,
California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to
our below-listed address.

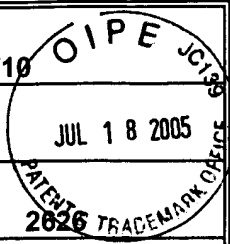
Respectfully submitted,



Attorney for Applicant
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Registration No. 42,746

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New York, New York 10112-2200
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

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|---|--|--|--|---|--|--------------------------------------|--|
| FORM PTO 1449 (modified) U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S) (Use several sheets if necessary) | | | | ATTY DOCKET NO. 00862.022223. | | APPLICATION NO. 09/853,710 | |
| | | | | APPLICANT TETSUYA KAWANABE | | | |
| | | | | FILING DATE May 14, 2001 | | GROUP | |



| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|--|--------------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------|------------|-------------------------------|
| *EXAMINER INITIAL | | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE |
| | | 5,550,637 | 08/27/96 | Murakami | 358 | 296 | |
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| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|-----------|--------------------|-----------------|--------------|-------|----------|---------------------------------------|
| | | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUBCLASS | TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT |
| | | | | | | | |
| | JP | 59-000624 | 01/05/84 | Japan | | | Abstract |
| | JP | 03-225410 | 10/04/91 | Japan | | | Abstract |
| | JP | 08/263188 | 10/11/96 | Japan | | | Abstract |
| | JP | 62-272384 | 11/26/87 | Japan | | | Abstract |
| | JP | 63-220385 | 09/13/88 | Japan | | | Abstract |
| | JP | 04-199392 | 07/20/92 | Japan | | | Abstract |
| | JP | 06-052670 | 02/25/94 | Japan | | | Abstract |
| | JP | 01-159274 | 06/22/89 | Japan | | | Abstract |
| | JP | 06-282127 | 07/10/94 | Japan | | | Abstract |

| OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.) | | |
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.